



名香智子

3



*Tomoko Naka*

# C O N T E N T S

## *CHAPTER 6*

### *"MODEL"*

..... 6 .....

## *CHAPTER 7*

### *"LIAR"*

..... 56 .....

## *CHAPTER 8*

### *"CLASSMATES"*

..... 106 .....

# *Madam Joker*



JOUR COMICS

# マダム・ジョーカー3

*MADAME JOKER 3*

名香智子

*Tomoko Naka*

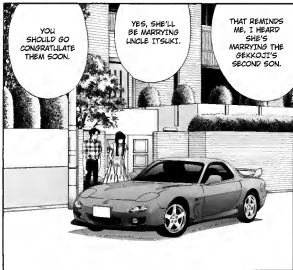


MADAME JOKER CHAPTER 6

マダム・ジョーカー 第6話

MODEL モデル





## MADAME JOKER







## MADAME JOKER





HE HAD A REGULAR  
JOB AND HAD A  
QUIET ENOUGH  
LIFESTYLE. ONE OF  
HIS HOBBIES WAS  
GAMBLING.

WE DON'T  
REALLY  
HAVE ANY  
IDEAS.



WE'VE  
WORKED  
TOGETHER  
SINCE OUR  
SCHOOL  
DAYS.

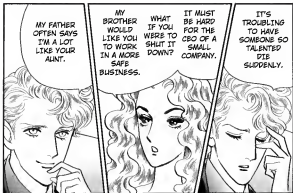
HE WAS  
A CLOSE  
FRIEND..



SO IT  
WAS  
SUICIDE?  
DO YOU  
KNOW  
WHY?

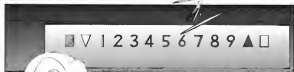
## MADAME JOKER





# MADAME JOKER





# MADAME JOKER







SORRY,  
IT'S A  
BIT  
SMALL

IT'S MY  
MOM'S  
CAR...

COULD IT BE  
THAT YOUR  
MOM IS  
RICH?

THIS  
IS A  
JAGUAR.

THOUGH  
THE NEW  
DRIVER  
STICKER  
IS A BIT...

A  
CONVER-  
TIBLE  
...

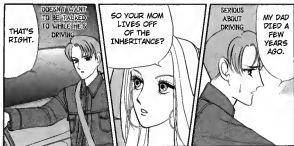
WHAT  
BUSINESS  
IS YOUR  
DAD IN?

SERIOUS.

IT  
IS.

MY MOM  
IS  
RICH.

## MADAME JOKER





LET'S DO  
IT AGAIN  
SOME  
TIME.



AH,  
OKAY.

CAN I  
HAVE  
YOURS?

THANK  
YOU.  
THIS IS  
MY CELL  
PHONE  
NUMBER.



YUKINO IS  
A REALLY  
BEAUTIFUL  
MODEL.

BUT SHE'S THE  
CEO'S  
GIRLFRIEND,  
SO YOU BETTER  
NOT LAY A HAND  
ON HER.



HEY,  
GEEK-  
KOJI.

I'M GLAD  
WE MADE  
IT  
SAFELY.



WHERE'S  
YOUR  
PLACE,  
YAMADA?

I  
WONDER  
...

OH, SHE  
IS?

IT'S IN  
NERIMA.

ARE  
THEY  
GONNA  
GET  
MARRIED?

WOAH.

# MADAME JOKER

CRUNCH



ME  
TOO...  
WHICH  
MEANS  
...

A  
CRUNCH  
...  
I  
HEARD A  
CRUNCH  
...



NERIMA.  
NERIMA.  
NERIMA.



TAKAMURA  
STARTED THE  
COMPANY  
WHEN HE WAS  
STILL IN  
SCHOOL.

I  
WONDER  
IF  
THEY'LL  
LET ME  
BE FULL-  
TIME.

IT'S  
GOOD.

IT'S  
AMAZING.

JUST A  
LITTLE  
...

UM... I  
HIT A  
GUARD  
RAIL.

HOW  
ARE  
YOU,  
JIRAN?

JUST A  
LITTLE

I MEANT  
TAKAMURA  
AND THE  
JOB.

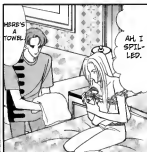


## MADAME JOKER





# MADAME JOKER







YOU KNOW, I WANT TO MARRY TAKAMURA.



# MADAME JOKER





I KNOW A  
STORE  
STILL OPEN AT  
THIS HOUR.



THEN LET'S  
GO GET ME A  
CHANGE OF  
CLOTHES.

YES. CREDIT?

I'LL  
PAY.



A  
PRESENT  
TO  
REMEMBER  
TONIGHT  
BY,  
♥

HUH,  
NOT

IT  
LOOKS  
GOOD  
ON  
YOU



THIS,  
THIS,

AND  
THIS.



REMEM-  
BER  
TONIGHT  
?????

# MADAME JOKER







BUT I DON'T  
WANT A WOMAN  
WHO NEEDS A  
LOT OF MONEY  
ON A DATE...



GO AHEAD  
AND THINK  
ON IT  
FOR A FEW  
CENTURIES!

HMM  
HMM  
HMM  
...



I DON'T  
KNOW...

BUT I THINK  
ALL THE  
MONEY I EARN  
IN A DAY IS A  
BIT MUCH...



WOMAN WHO  
PAID FOR HER  
LUNCH DATE

JU-  
JURAN,  
ARE  
YOU  
STINGY  
?



I BOUGHT  
HER THREE  
PIECES OF  
CLOTHING.

WOMEN'S  
CLOTHES ARE  
EXPENSIVE

¥600?

WHY WAS  
IT SO  
MUCH?



ABOUT  
¥600.

MUCH?  
JUST  
HOW  
MUCH?



A TOTAL  
IDIOT!?

JURAN,  
ARE  
YOU...



UH...

THAT MEANS YOU  
WERE JUST  
FINANCING HER!  
AND SHE'S NOT  
EVEN YOUR  
GIRLFRIEND!!



IF WE BADMOUTH  
THE WOMAN HE  
LOVES, HE WON'T  
BELIEVE US. IN  
FACT, HE'LL HATE  
US INSTEAD!

WE  
CAN'T.



DUNNO.

SHOULD  
WE WARN  
HIM?

WHY IS  
TAKAMURA  
EVEN DATING  
SOMEONE  
LIKE THAT?

DOES HE  
NOT  
KNOW  
WHAT  
SHE'S  
REALLY  
LIKE?

# MADAME JOKER







IS THERE  
ANY OTHER  
KIND OF  
MAN  
BESIDES  
THE KIND  
WHO  
SPENDS  
MONEY ON  
WOMEN?

DOESN'T  
KNOW  
HOW THE  
WORLD  
WORKS  
...



PROBABLY.

WHAT, ARE  
WE THE  
SAME?

OTHER?

DO YOU  
MEAN  
TAKA-  
MURA?



SHE'S  
PRETTY,  
SO I GIVE  
HER  
RIDES IN  
MY CAR...

BUT IT'S  
NOT LIKE  
SHE'S MY  
GIRLFRIEND.

IF TO SPEND IT ON  
A WOMAN I'LL  
JUST USE IT FOR  
MYSELF...

BUYING  
GIFTS  
FOR  
YUKINO?

I DON'T  
RECALL  
DOING  
SUCH A  
THING.





IT'S ABOUT MY  
COWORKER  
SAKAMOTO  
WHO DIED  
YESTERDAY...

ACTUALLY...  
HEARING  
THAT  
REMINDED  
ME OF  
SOMETHING...

HE HAD  
NEITHER THE  
INTEREST  
NOR THE FREE  
TIME TO  
SPEND A LOT  
OF MONEY.

NOT  
ABOUT  
ME...

BUT NOW, HE  
DOESN'T EVEN  
HAVE THE  
MONEY FOR A  
FUNERAL.



SO THIS  
SAKAMOTO WAS  
DATING  
YUKINO?

HIS FAMILY  
FROM THE  
COUNTRYSIDE  
LOOKED AT  
HIS  
BANKBOOK.

IT SEEMS  
HE USED  
UP ALL OF  
HIS  
SAVINGS  
IN THE  
LAST  
THREE  
MONTHS.

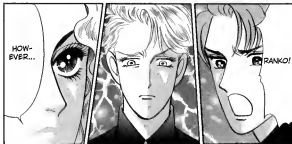
AND THREE  
MONTHS AGO  
IS WHEN  
YUKINO  
STARTED TO  
COME BY THE  
OFFICE...

## MADAME JOKER





# MADAME JOKER





AS A MODEL I  
ALWAYS HAVE  
TO BE WEARING  
NICE THINGS.

BUT I  
DON'T HAVE  
ANY  
MONEY.

IT COSTS  
A LOT OF  
MONEY...



YOU  
COULD  
...  
BUY AN  
OUTFIT?



THERE'S  
THIS  
RESTAURANT  
I'VE ALWAYS  
WANTED TO  
GO TO,

HEY,  
SEKKO-  
JI.

BUT IN  
THESE  
CLOTHES

...  
DON'T YOU  
THINK I  
SHOULD BE  
PRETTY?







YOU'RE SO CHARMING  
I'M GONNA FAINT!  
♡ ♡

OH...  
REALLY?

I'LL  
BUY  
YOU  
ANY-  
THING.

I  
WANT  
THAT,

AND  
THIS,

AND  
THAT,  
AND  
THIS,

AND I  
WANT  
THIS.

AND THAT,  
TOO.



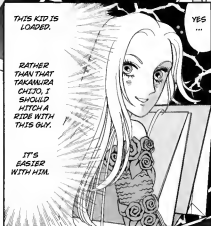
THIS IS THE  
HAPPYEST I'VE  
EVER BEEN IN  
MY LIFE!

♡♡♡♡

AH~

SO  
HAPPY!

♡  
♡



THIS KID IS  
LOADED.

RATHER  
THAN THAT  
TAKAMURA  
CHITO, I  
SHOULD  
HITCH A  
RIDE WITH  
THIS GUY.

IT'S  
EASIER  
WITH HIM.

YES  
...

SHE SAID SHE  
WANTED TO  
CARRY ALL OF  
THE BAGS

I'M...  
GLAD.





I DON'T  
LIKE THAT  
KIND OF  
THING...



AND IF IT  
DOESN'T GO  
WELL, I'LL GET A  
NICE, FAY  
SETTLEMENT.

IF I CHANGE  
ESTABLISHED  
TRUTHS, HIS  
PARENTS'  
OBJECTIONS  
WILL BE  
GONE.

HEY, I  
WANT  
TO THANK  
YOU.

ON TOP  
OF A  
HOTEL  
BED...



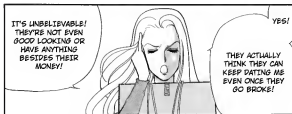
YOU  
KNOW  
GUY'S  
LIKE  
THAT?



YOU'RE  
STRANGE.  
NORMALLY A  
GUY WOULD  
NEVER STOP  
CHASING ME.

WHAT'S WITH  
KIDS  
NOWADAYS?  
WELL, FINE.

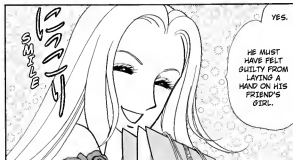
HAW...

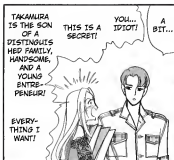


IT'S UNBELIEVABLE!  
THEY'RE NOT EVEN  
GOOD LOOKING OR  
HAVE ANYTHING  
BESIDES THEIR  
MONEY!

YES!

THEY ACTUALLY  
THINK THEY CAN  
KEEP DATING ME  
EVEN ONCE THEY  
GO BROKE!









YEAH...  
THOUGH  
SHE'S BEEN  
CHARGING A  
LOT THESE  
PAST FEW  
WEEKS.

...

DID SHE  
SIGN FOR  
IT  
HERSELF?

SO  
...



YOUNG  
WOMEN  
SPARE  
NO  
EXPENSE  
FOR  
WHAT  
THEY  
WANT!

SPARE NO  
EXPENSE?

HOW MUCH  
DOES RAINBO  
USE?

...

...

# MADAME JOKER







WHY WOULD  
HE DEPOSIT  
WHAT YOU'VE  
SPENT INTO  
YOUR  
ACCOUNT?



JUST AS  
MUCH AS I  
USED...

HAWA  
...

HOW MUCH  
DID HE  
SAY HE'D  
DEPOSIT?



THAT  
IS...



I CAN'T  
TELL  
YOU.

IT SEEMS  
HE'S BEEN  
SPENDING  
MONEY IN  
AN ODD WAY  
LATELY.

HIS PARENTS  
DECIDED HE  
COULDN'T  
EVEN HAVE A  
DOLLAR  
MORE.



ANYWAY,  
WHERE  
DOES HE  
LIVE?

HE  
WON'T  
PICK  
UP HIS  
PHONE.



Y-  
YES!

HEY,  
LEND  
ME  
SOME  
MONEY.



YOU HAVE A BAD  
REPUTATION  
FOR MAKING  
ASSUMPTIONS,  
DON'T YOU?



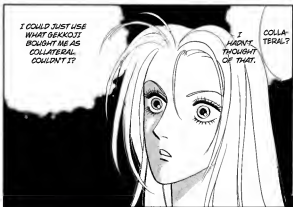
SO YOU  
LIED TO  
ME!?

MY HONORABLE  
POVERTY IS  
DUE TO  
EXAGGERATION  
OF MY STATUS  
AND FAMILY...  
THE BUSINESS  
IS IN DEBT,  
TOO.



DON'T YOU HAVE PLENTY  
OF NICE THINGS? IF  
YOU USE THOSE AS  
COLLATERAL, YOU CAN  
GET THE MONEY BACK,  
CAN'T YOU?

BUT I  
NEED  
MONEY!



I COULD JUST USE  
WHAT GEKKOJI  
BOUGHT ME AS  
COLLATERAL.  
COULDN'T I?

I  
HADN'T  
THOUGHT  
OF THAT.

COLLA-  
TERAL?

## MADAME JOKER





I DON'T  
KNOW IF  
I'D CALL  
HER  
SMART  
...

SHE WAS  
SMART  
ABOUT  
USING  
OTHERS'  
MONEY...

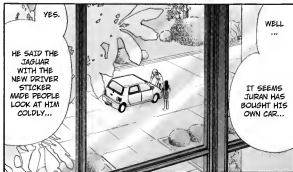
BUT HER  
DESIRE  
WAS SO  
STRONG  
THAT WHEN  
SHE GAVE  
IN

SHE  
COULDN'T  
STOP.

AND  
SIGNED  
FOR  
HER-  
SELF...



GOING INTO  
BANKRUPTCY  
DUE TO  
OVER-  
BORROWING  
WAS THE  
NATURAL  
RESULT.



YES.

HE SAID THE  
JAGUAR  
WITH THE  
NEW DRIVER  
STICKER  
MADE PEOPLE  
LOOK AT HIM  
COLDLY...

WELL  
...

IT SEEMS  
JURAN HAS  
BOUGHT HIS  
OWN CAR...



SO HE  
FINALLY  
NOTICED.

BUT WHY THAT  
CAR?

I  
THOUGHT  
SO TOO!

BUT IF YOU COULD  
DATE ONE WHO  
WOULDN'T  
COMPLAIN ABOUT  
THIS CHEAP CAR,  
I'D FEEL OKAY  
ABOUT IT.

YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE  
EYES FOR  
WOMEN.

I BOUGHT IT WITH MY  
MONEY FROM WORK.  
IT WAS 8000.

THE NEW DRIVER  
STICKER SUITS IT  
BETTER. I'M PRETTY  
SATISFIED.







WHO

ARE  
YOU?



I  
COULD  
ASK  
YOU  
THE  
SAME.

WHO  
ARE  
YOU?



I AM,  
BUT...

YOU  
ARE?

COULD  
IT BE  
THAT  
YOU'RE

JURAN?





SO  
YOUNG...  
HE LOOKS  
LIKE THE  
SAME AGE  
AS ME...

ARASHI  
TOJO...?  
MAYBE  
HE'S  
RANKO'S  
NEW  
LOVER.



I AM  
ARASHI  
TOJO.

IS  
RANKO  
HERE?



HEY,  
RANNA.

HOW  
HAVE YOU  
BEEN?

ARASHI!

YOU'RE  
BACK IN  
JAPAN?



# MADAME JOKER





YOU DON'T  
LOOK  
LIKE IT...

HUH?  
  
YOU  
WERE AT H  
UNIVERSITY  
IN AMERICA,  
TOJO?



I'M AVERAGE!  
AVERAGE!!  
YOU'RE SO  
WEIRD!!



DON'T BE  
SO RUDE.

AND  
YOU'RE TOO  
STUPID.



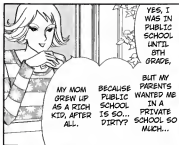
HIS  
PERSONALITY  
IS ROTTEN,  
BUT HE'S  
SMART.



DOES HE  
HAVE A  
THING FOR  
RAINA  
...?

YOU'RE  
PRETTY  
CUTE WHEN  
YOU'RE  
MAD.





YES, I WAS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL UNTIL 8TH GRADE,

MY MOM GREW UP AS A RICH KID, AFTER ALL.

BECAUSE PUBLIC SCHOOL IS SO... DIRTY?

BUT MY PARENTS WANTED ME IN A PRIVATE SCHOOL SO MUCH...



OH RIGHT, YOU WERE ADMITTED FROM HIGH SCHOOL, RIGHT?



I DON'T THINK SO.

NO, ME?

BUT HER HAIR IS FRIZZY... IT WON'T HAPPEN.

I'M SURE SHE HAS THE SAME HAIRSTYLE AS ME.

HAYAMA USED TO MIMIC ME BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.



HUH? REALLY?

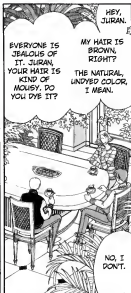
EVEN AS THE RICH HEIR OF THE GEKKOJI FAMILY?



SHE JUST WANTS TO BE JUST LIKE ME.

IS THERE SOMEONE YOU WANT TO BE LIKE, GEKKOJI?

# MADAME JOKER





OH  
MY,  
ARE WE  
HAVING  
A  
MIXER?

AH,  
RANKO  
...

... SO  
I'D LIKE  
TO ASK,  
ARASHI  
TOJO,

WHAT  
BUSI-  
NESS  
BRINGS  
YOU  
HERE?

TAKE ANY  
ROOM YOU  
LIKE.

YES,

TOJO IS  
STAYING  
HERE?

HUH?

I'LL BE  
AVAILING  
MYSELF OF  
YOUR KIND  
OFFER AND  
STAYING HERE  
FOR WINTER  
BREAK.



# MADAME JOKER





WE ONLY DO BIRTH-DAY PARTIES ONCE EVERY FOUR YEARS.

THIS IS A YEAR WITH NO BIRTH-DAYS.



I WAS BORN ON FEBRUARY 29TH.

I'M THE SAME.



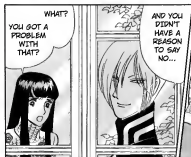
SO YOU DON'T LIKE TO GET OLDER? WHAT A BAD WAY TO RUN A HOUSE!

ONCE EVERY FOUR YEARS?



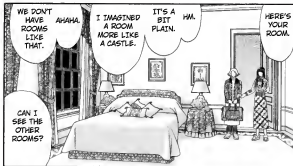
ARASHI, PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.

WELL, I'LL BE HEADING OUT.





# MADAME JOKER





# MADAME JOKER



IT'S FINE.  
SHOW  
ME NEXT TIME.

SORRY,  
I CAN'T  
FIND  
IT.



HOW  
ODD...

WHERE  
DID I  
PUT IT?

I COULD  
HAVE  
SWORN  
IT WAS  
HERE.



MISS.

YOU  
HAVE A  
CALL  
FROM  
MR.  
OGANE.

HWA  
...

IS  
THAT  
SO?



HUH? I  
DIDN'T  
THINK  
THEY GOT  
ALONG.

JURAN AND  
ARASHI  
WENT TO  
AKIHABARA.

WHERE  
IS  
JURAN?

THEY'RE  
BOTH  
NERDS.







I  
HAPPENED  
TO MEET  
THESE  
TWO AT  
THE GATE.

WE'RE  
BACK!  
  
AND  
HUNGRY.



THIS IS  
NATSUKE  
KITAHARA,  
A CLASS-  
MATE OF  
MINE.  
  
AND  
THIS IS  
MAMORU  
OGANE.



HE'S A  
BIT RICH  
BUT  
ALSO  
PLAIN  
...  
  
PASS!



HI!  
  
...  
  
COME IN,  
MAMORU.





RANKO,  
WHY DID  
YOU BUY  
SO MUCH?

LET ME  
HELP.

SO I  
BOUGHT  
A FEW  
THINGS  
FOR  
THAT.

ITSUKI  
TOLD ME  
TO COME TO  
NEW YORK  
TO  
CELEBRATE  
MY  
BIRTHDAY.

THERE  
ARE  
STILL  
MORE  
BAGS.



I'M  
HOME!



AFTER  
ALL,  
ARASHI  
IS  
HERE.

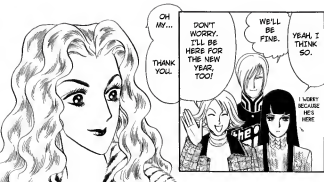
I'LL BE  
GONE  
THROUGH  
THE NEW  
YEAR, BUT  
YOU'LL BE  
OKAY.

MY  
PLANE  
LEAVES  
TOMOR-  
ROW.



IS THAT A  
PRE-  
MARITAL  
TRIP?

UNCLE  
ITSUKI  
AND  
NEW  
YORK?







I MAKE  
THE FOOD  
TASTE  
BETTER.

DON'T FOLIT  
OR YOUR  
FOOD WILL  
TASTE  
WORSE.

RANNA,



YOU  
SURE ARE  
GOOD AT  
BUTTING  
IN.

WE  
WEREN'T  
TALKING  
ABOUT MY  
PARENTS.



HEY ARASHI,  
YOUR  
PARENTS ARE  
WORKING  
ABROAD,  
RIGHT?

THEY MUST  
BE SUPER  
SLITS.



RANKO IS  
PAYING FOR  
IT.

THOUGH  
I'LL BE  
PAYING IT  
BACK WITH  
INTEREST  
...

BUT YOU  
GO TO A  
FAMOUS  
SCHOOL  
IN  
AMERICA  
RIGHT?



IF I HAD  
SOMETHING  
IMPORTANT LET'S  
THINK...  
THAT I  
DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
LOSE.  
WHERE  
WOULD I  
PUT IT  
...?

UM...

LET'S  
THINK...



WHERE?

HERE?

UM...  
THERE?

HUH?



???

HMM...?  
DIDN'T I PUT  
IT IN HERE?



MAMA

FLAVOR



AH...

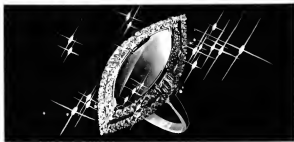
WHAT DO  
I DO? I  
DON'T  
REMEMBER  
WHERE  
I PUT  
IT!!!





# MADAME JOKER





## MADAME JOKER

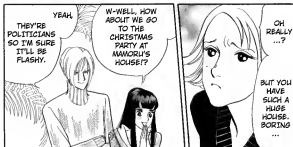








## MADAME JOKER







## MADAME JOKER

I NEED TO GET  
OUT OF THIS  
HOUSE  
QUICKLY.

THEY MIGHT  
FIND OUT  
WHAT I DID.

OH, SO  
TOJO IS A  
DELIN-  
QUENT,  
HUH...

NOT  
GOODY

IT'S EASY  
TO FOOL  
THESE  
NAIVE  
PEOPLE,

BUT I CANT  
UNDERESTI-  
MATE  
SOMEONE  
LIKE ME.

WOW,  
THIS IS  
JUST  
WHAT  
YOU'D  
EXPECT  
FROM A  
RICH  
CHRIS-  
T-  
MAS  
PARTY!



## MADAME JOKER





TODAY  
MAKES  
HOW  
MANY  
DAYS  
NOW?

YES, HE'S BEEN  
COOPED UP IN  
ARASHI'S ROOM,  
AND I HAVEN'T  
SEEN EITHER OF  
THEM LEAVE.

MAN, I CAME ALL  
THE WAY TO  
YOUR HOUSE  
BUT I STILL  
CAN'T SEE  
JURAN. THIS  
SUCKS.

THEY EVEN  
EAT IN  
THE  
ROOM...



WANT TO  
EAVES-  
DROP?

HEE  
HEE  
HEE

I WONDER IF  
THEY'RE  
DOING  
SOMETHING  
NASTY IN  
THERE?



DON'T JUST  
SPEND YOUR  
TIME WITH  
TOJO, COME  
HANG OUT WITH  
ME!

O-GOOD  
MORNING,  
JURAN!

WAH  
...



I TOLD  
YOU  
WE'RE  
MAKING  
SOFT-  
WARE...

WE  
WORKED  
THROUGH  
YESTER-  
DAY  
MORNING.  
JUST WOKE  
UP NOW.

# MADAME JOKER









LET'S  
GO,  
KITA-  
HARA!



GO AHEAD  
AND  
SEARCH MY  
ROOM.

I  
SAID,



SO YOU'RE  
SAYING  
THAT  
KITAHARA IS  
A LIAR?



IS SOMEONE  
CLEANING MY  
ROOM?

GO IN  
AND  
LOOK.



KITA-  
HARA!

DASH!

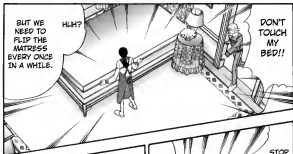


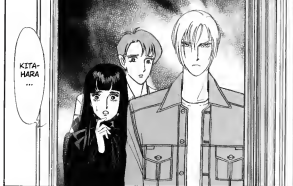
YES.

I THINK  
SEIJI IS  
CHANGING  
YOUR  
SHEETS  
AND SUCH.



# MADAME JOKER





KITA-  
HARA



IT HAS...  
MY  
UNDER-  
WEAR.

NO,

IF YOU  
USED THE  
MONEY,  
THERE  
WOULDN'T  
BE ANY  
LEFT.  
WHAT'S  
THIS  
BAG?



IF... IF YOU SUSPECT  
ME, HERE! LOOK  
THROUGH THIS! IT'S  
MY LUGGAGE!!



YOU  
PIG!

DON'T  
TOUCH  
THEM!

STOP  
IT!

THEY'LL  
BALLED  
UP LIKE  
GYOZA.

OH,  
IT'S  
TRUE.

# MADAME JOKER





KITA-  
HARA

I SPENT  
THAT \$50  
WHEN I WAS  
OUT SHOPPING  
YESTERDAY.

THAT'S  
RIGHT,  
EVERYONE.  
I STOLE IT.

I DIDN'T LIKE  
THE FACT THAT  
YOU ALL HAVE  
THINGS I  
DONT.

BUT YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
HAVE PUT IT  
SOMEWHERE  
IT COULD BE  
STOLEN.

I DONT  
NEED TO  
BE  
HERE.

BYE!

HIDING  
THINGS IN  
UNDERWEAR  
IS TYPICAL  
OF A  
NAUGHTY  
GIRL.

AND IF IT  
WEREN'T FOR  
YOU, I WOULDN'T  
HAVE BEEN  
FOUND OUT! I  
WAS ON A  
ROLL!!

THANKS TO  
YOU, I MIGHT  
HAVE TO GO  
BACK TO  
SCHOOL!!



IDIOT!

THE ONE WHO STOLE IT WAS WRONG, OBVIOUSLY!

WAS IT WRONG TO PUT THEM AWAY?



THAT'S HARD. IF I'M WITH YOU, I DON'T WANT TO BE LUMPED IN WITH THEM...

DOES THAT INCLUDE YOU?

THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WHO ARE SPOILED LIKE THAT. YOU WOULD DO BEST TO AVOID THEM, RAINNA!

PEOPLE LIKE THAT, WHO ONLY CARE ABOUT THEIR OWN DESIRES, AREN'T RARE. IF YOU BEFRIEND THEM, THEY GET CARRIED AWAY, AND END UP RESENTING YOU.



WHAT DO YOU THINK, JURAN?

YOU NEED ME SO YOU DON'T GET TAKEN IN BY PEOPLE LIKE THAT...

I'LL PROTECT YOU.

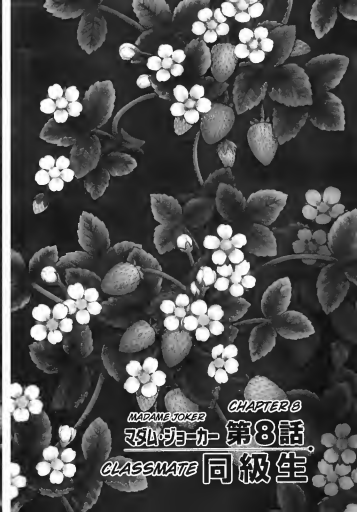
WITH RANK GONE, THERE'S ONLY THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS WITH NO POWER

IT BECOMES A GATHERING SPOT FOR CROOKS...

## MADAME JOKER



CH. 7 ♥ END



MADAME JOKER

CHAPTER 8

マダム・ジョーカー 第8話

CLASSMATE 同級生





HUH?

A CLASS  
REUNION?



## MADAME JOKER





CLASS  
REUNION

...  
I WONDER  
WHAT KIND  
OF  
STUDENT  
SHE WAS?



I'M SURE  
THEY SAID  
THERE'LL  
BE  
ENOUGH  
SEATS.

OH, IT'S  
FINE...

AH, I'M  
SORRY.

WE'RE LATE  
BECAUSE YOU  
HAD TO PICK  
ME UP.

## MADAME JOKER







STILL  
CAN'T  
CONTROL  
HER  
REA-  
CTION



IT'S NOT  
FLATT-  
ERY.  
IT'S THE  
TRUTH.

FLINCH



MY...

YOU'RE  
FLATTERING  
ME? IT MUST  
BE A SIGN OF  
THE  
APOCALYPSE.



IT'S  
BECAUSE  
YOU WOULD  
FLAGRANTLY  
BREAK THE  
RULES.

THE ONLY  
MEMORIES I  
HAVE OF YOU  
IS WHEN YOU  
TOLD ME OFF.



FLAG-  
RANT-  
LY...

ALL I HAD REALLY  
WAS A CLEAR  
MANICURE  
WITH A BIT  
OF COLOR ON  
THE TIP.

HAVE FUN YOU  
SAY...? BUT THE  
ONLY ONE NEXT TO  
ME IS YOU...



WELL, NOW  
THAT WE'RE  
ALL HERE,  
SHALL WE  
BEGIN THE  
MEAL?

IT'S TOO  
BAD THAT  
OUR HOME-  
ROOM  
TEACHER,  
MR. OHTA,  
COULDN'T  
BE HERE, BUT

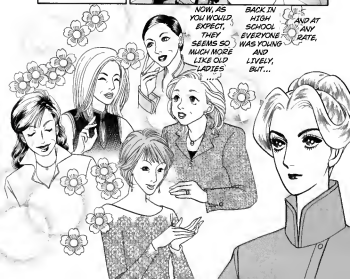
LET'S HAVE  
FUN WHILE  
TALKING  
ABOUT OUR  
PAST.



NOW, AS  
YOU WOULD  
EXPECT,  
THEY  
SEEMS SO  
MUCH MORE  
LIKE OLD  
LADIES

BACK IN  
HIGH  
SCHOOL  
EVERYONE  
WAS YOUNG  
AND  
LIVELY,  
BUT...

AND AT  
ANY  
RATE,





SHE'S  
GETTING A  
BIT OLD,  
BUT SHE'S  
STILL  
GORGEOUS

AND THEN  
THERE IS THE  
QUEEN BEE OF  
OUR CLASS,  
FUJINARA...



ME...?

AM?

I HAVE  
A BAD  
FEELING  
ABOUT  
THIS.

THIS HAS  
BEEN A  
COMMON  
PATTERN  
LATELY...

AH...

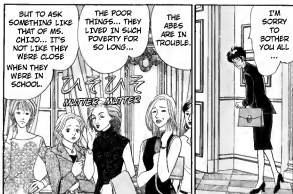




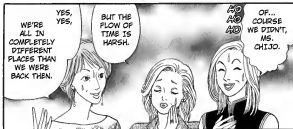


# MADAME JOKER





# MADAME JOKER





## MADAME JOKER



I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D GO OUT WITH GREY HAIR.

COMPLETELY WORN OUT...

YOUR SHOES AND YOUR CLOTHES ARE, I MEAN. THEY DON'T LOOK NEW...

THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS SAYING, BUT...

BUT,

I REALLY FEEL SORRY FOR YOU, KAZANIN.



YES.  
OF COURSE.

MAY I COME  
BY TO VISIT  
NEXT TIME?

DO YOU  
STILL LIVE  
THERE?

I USED TO COME VISIT  
YOUR MANSION. YOUR  
HOME WAS SO  
BEAUTIFUL, IT WAS  
LIKE A DREAM.

BUT  
NEXT  
WEEK  
WE'RE  
GOING ON  
A WORLD-  
WIDE  
CRUISE.

WE WON'T  
BE BACK  
IN JAPAN  
FOR A  
WHILE.

NOW I HAVE A  
COUPLE EVEN  
MORE  
IMPRESSIVE  
MANSIONS.

NO, THAT PLACE  
BECAME SO OLD.

ISN'T IT  
INCONVE-  
NIENT?

OH RIGHT, MS.  
CHIJO... YOUR  
HOME IS NOT IN  
THE CITY,  
RIGHT?

WE'RE...  
NOT  
QUITE  
THERE  
YET.

WON'T IT  
HAVE A  
LOT OF  
OLD  
PEOPLE?

WOW, A  
CRUISE  
AROUND  
THE  
WORLD.

TRUE,

THOUGH  
I'M NOT  
YOUNG.

NO  
NO  
NO





I HEAR A LOT OF RUMORS FROM MY OWN DAUGHTER.

OH RIGHT, YOUR DAUGHTER IS RANNA GEKKOJI, RIGHT?



OH... MY DAUGHTER DIDN'T GO THERE EITHER. SHE WENT TO A SWISS SCHOOL.

I WOULDN'T SAY IT'S INCONVENIENT, THOUGH IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT MY HIGH SCHOOL-AGE DAUGHTER COULDN'T GO TO SONOIKE.



YOUR RELATIVES ARE PRETTY, YOU SAY?

YOU ARE NOT HELPING.

LET'S ARRANGE A MARRIAGE.

HO  
HO  
HO



OH ARE YOU TRYING TO STEAL THE SPOT OF THE BRIDE OF THE GEKKOJI GROUP?

SPEAKING OF RUMORS, THE GEKKOJI BOY IS QUITE HANDSOME, ISN'T HE?

ALL THE GIRLS IN MY FAMILY NEVER STOP SWOONING OVER HIM!

YOU'LL HAVE TO INTRODUCE THEM.







HE'S TOO  
AIR-HEADED. NOT A  
GOOD MATCH FOR  
YOUR DAUGHTER AT  
ALL.

MY SON?  
OH, NO,  
NO, NO.



BUT HE WAS RAISED  
WELL, RIGHT? FOR  
NOW, WHY NOT LET  
THE TWO OF THEM  
MEET?



WHAT DO  
YOU  
SEE?

I SEE  
...

# MADAME JOKER



THEY WERE  
TALKING  
ABOUT  
MARRYING  
MAKORU TO  
YOUR  
CLASSMATE'S  
DAUGHTER?

HUH?  
YOU  
MEAN  
...



...  
...  
AND  
WHAT'S  
THAT  
GIRL  
LIKE?

THE  
ATMOS-  
PHERE  
JUST  
TURNED  
STRANGE.

I  
THOUGHT  
IT WOULD  
BE FUN,  
BUT

THAT'S  
HOW IT  
ENDED  
UP.

I DON'T  
KNOW, BUT  
IF SHE'S  
THE  
DAUGHTER  
OF FUJI-  
WARA,  
SHE'LL BE  
BEAUTIFUL.





\* BOOK: THE ABANDONED WITCH







YOU AND  
MAMORI  
ARE  
WEIRD!

YOU DON'T  
HAVE ANY  
INTEREST  
IN  
WOMEN?  
WHAT ARE  
YOU, GAY?!



JURAN,

DO YOU  
NOT  
HAVE AN  
INTER-  
EST IN  
WOMEN?



HMM... I  
GUESS. I DON'T  
REALLY LIKE  
THEM.

SHALL I  
INTRODUCE  
YOU TO A  
GIRL?



I'M TIRED  
OF  
HANGING  
OUT WITH  
GIRLS.

NO  
THANKS.  
  
I WAS IN  
ALL-BOYS  
SCHOOLS UNTIL  
NOW, BUT EVEN  
IN A MIXED-  
GENDER  
SCHOOL,



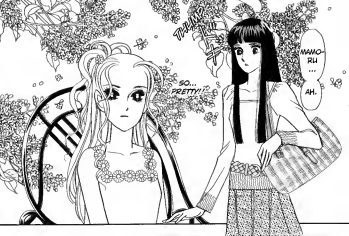






THE  
OGA-  
NI'S  
HOME





MAMA-  
RU ...  
AH.

SO...  
PRETTY!



I'M SURE  
THAT  
RANNA'S  
MOM ALSO  
WENT TO  
SCHOOL  
WITH YOUR  
MOM,  
SAYURI.

NICE TO  
MEET YOU.  
I'M RANNA  
GAKKOJI.

UGH...  
SHE'S  
CUTE!

NICE  
TO  
MEET  
YOU.

THIS IS  
SAYURI  
FUJIWARA,  
THE  
DAUGHTER OF  
MY MOM'S  
CLASSMATE.

WH-  
WHO IS  
THIS?

C... COULD  
IT BE HER?  
SHE SURE  
GOT HERE  
FAST.

# MADAME JOKER



YOU'RE ONLY IN HIGH SCHOOL...  
YOU'RE YOUNG, TOO.



C...  
CUTE...

UH...  
YEAH...



BUT YOUNGER  
GIRLS ARE  
CUTE, RIGHT,  
RANNA?



I MAY BE IN  
MIDDLE  
SCHOOL, BUT  
WE'RE ONLY A  
YEAR APART.



HER  
FINGERS  
ARE WHITE  
AND LONG,  
JUST AS A  
GIRL'S HAND  
SHOULD BE.

HER SKIN IS  
WHITE, HER  
EYES ARE  
DARK, HER  
EYELASHES  
ARE LONG, AND  
HER HAIR IS  
LIKE SILK...





\* BOOK: THE CITY OF THE CRICKET'S DREAMS





YEP,  
GOTTA  
GO!

HOW DO  
I PUT  
THIS...

THEY GO  
TOGETHER  
SO WELL...

IT WAS  
LIKE I WAS  
JUST IN THE  
WAY...

AND IT LOOKED  
LIKE MAMORU  
REALLY LIKED  
HER...

I NEVER  
THOUGHT SHE  
WOULD BE THAT  
BEAUTIFUL...





WELCOME HOME, SAYURI.

HOW DID IT GO?



I BORROWED SOME BOOKS.  
HE'S A BIG BOOKWORM. HE  
EVEN HAS BOOKS YOU CAN'T FIND  
IN A LIBRARY.



I'M HOME, MOTHER.



...  
HE HAS A  
GIRL-  
FRIEND.



THAT'S NOT WHAT I  
MEANT. I WAS ASKING  
IF THAT BEANPOLE  
BOY FELL FOR YOU.



SHE WAS  
RAISED  
WELL AND  
IS VERY  
CUTE.

HER NAME  
IS RANNA  
GEKKOJI  
...

GIRLFRIEND? I'M  
SURE SHE'S HIGHER  
THAN YOU, SO I  
DON'T SEE THE  
PROBLEM.



OH, I'VE  
ALREADY  
WORN THESE  
ONCE.

I NEED TO  
BUY MORE  
CLOTHES.



GEKKOJI?

IS THAT  
CHIJO...  
NO, RANKO  
GEKKOJI'S  
DAUGHTER!?



I THINK SHE IS.  
SHE WAS YOUR  
CLASSMATE,  
RIGHT?



MOTHER

WHAT IS THE MEANING  
OF THIS!? YOU CAN'T LET  
THAT BEANPOLE BOY BE  
TAKEN AWAY BY CHIJO'S  
DAUGHTER! NEVER! I  
WILL NEVER FORGIVE  
YOU IF SHE DOES!!



IT'S TRUE THAT A  
WOMAN'S LIFE IS  
DECIDED BY THE  
MAN SHE  
MARRIES...

IT'S  
UNREASON-  
ABLE.

RANKO  
CHIJO... I  
FIGURED  
SHE'D BE  
SOME  
GANGSTER'S  
WIFE, BUT...

THAT SHE'D  
WORM HER WAY  
INTO THE  
GKKOJI  
GROUP... HOW  
DESPICABLE.



...

HE WAS THE  
TYPE THAT  
COULD  
ACHIEVE IN  
SCHOOL, BUT  
NOT  
SOCIETY...

MY PARENTS CHOSE  
MY HUSBAND JUST  
ON HIS ACADEMIC  
HISTORY AND  
LOOKS, BECAUSE  
HE WOULD ADOPT  
OUR NAME  
ANYWAY... IT WAS A  
FAILURE!

# MADAME JOKER







IT'S NOT  
LIKE WE  
PROMISED.

RANNA,  
WHAT'S  
WRONG?  
WEREN'T  
YOU  
GOING TO  
SEE  
MAMORU  
TODAY?



OKAY,  
OKAY.

BUT IT'S  
NOT A  
DATE.

OH!

I'M FINE.  
WHY DON'T  
YOU HURRY  
UP AND GO  
ON YOUR  
DATE!

SINCE YOU  
HAVE THE  
DAY OFF,  
YOU  
SHOULD  
TAKE  
MAMORU  
ON A DATE!



SPEAK OF  
THE  
DEVIL....



GOOD  
AFTERNOON!  
I'VE COME TO  
HANG OUT!





YOU'RE  
EVEN  
PRETTIER  
THAN  
YOUR  
MOM.

YES.



ARE YOU  
FUJI-  
WARA'S  
DAUGH-  
TER?

HELLO.

AND I  
BROUGHT  
SAYURI.



OH, BUT I  
THOUGHT  
FUJIWARA'S  
DAUGHTER  
WAS AT A  
SCHOOL IN  
SWITZ-  
ERLAND.

OH, NOT  
AT ALL.



YES... SHE  
PROBABLY  
THINKS HER  
DAUGHTER  
SHOULD GO TO  
A SCHOOL  
LIKE  
SONOIKE.

EMBAR-  
ASSED?

MY  
MOM...  
IS  
EMBAR-  
ASSED.

I GO TO A  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOL IN  
JAPAN.

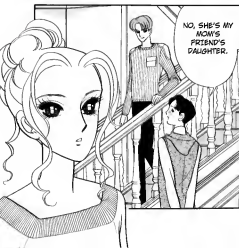
IS THAT  
WAS  
SHE'S  
SAYING?



## MADAME JOKER







## MADAME JOKER





IT...  
IT'S NOT  
REALLY  
BECAUSE  
OF  
THAT.

WAS IT  
THE  
3-YEARS  
OUT-OF-  
DATE  
CLOTHES  
FROM THE  
REUNION?

MY  
BUSINESS  
SUIT  
RIPPED AT  
THE COLLAR  
AND  
SLEEVE, SO  
I NEED A  
NEW ONE.



I JUST...  
THOUGHT I  
WOULD BUY  
SOME CLOTHES.

AND THAT  
MAYBE IT'D  
BE BEST IF  
YOU  
HELPED...

BUT  
THIS  
IS SO  
RARE,

THAT YOU'D  
ACCOMPANY  
ME, MS.  
KAZAN'IN.

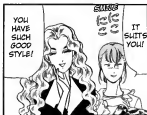


OH?

THEN I  
MIGHT  
GET  
THIS...



WELL THEN...  
HOW ABOUT  
THIS, THIS,  
AND THIS?



YOU  
HAVE  
SUCH  
GOOD  
STYLE!

SHIRAZ  
etc  
etc

IT  
SUITS  
YOU!

## MADAME JOKER





# MADAME JOKER







\* SIGN: BUY TICKETS HERE





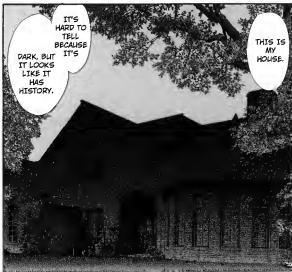


IT'S  
GETTING  
LATE, SO WE  
SHOULD  
TAKE YOU  
HOME.

OH,  
SURE.

UM, I  
MEAN...

YOU  
SHOULD  
ALL GO TO  
MY HOUSE  
AFTER-  
WARD...



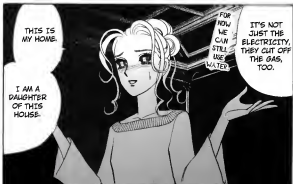
IT'S  
HARD TO  
TELL  
BECAUSE  
IT'S  
DARK, BUT  
IT LOOKS  
LIKE IT  
HAS  
HISTORY.

THIS IS  
MY  
HOUSE.

## MADAME JOKER



NO ...



EVEN SO, HE  
LEFT US THIS  
HOUSE AND  
ANOTHER  
MANSION WE  
RENT OUT...

MY FATHER  
WAS VERY  
KIND AND  
DIDN'T  
HAVE VERY  
MUCH  
MONEY...

IT'S TRUE  
OUR  
FAMILY  
HAS A LOT  
OF LOCAL  
ASSETS.

I GUESS  
YOU  
COULD  
SAY THAT.

DO YOU  
MEAN...  
YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE  
ENOUGH  
MONEY?

WE COULD  
HAVE A  
NORMAL  
LIFESTYLE  
JUST  
FROM THE  
RENT  
MONEY,  
BUT...



WE NO  
LONGER HAD  
ENOUGH  
MONEY FOR  
THAT...

SHE  
WANTED  
HER OLD  
LIFE-  
STYLE...

I DON'T  
GET WHAT  
MY MOM  
IS  
THINKING.

DO YOU  
THINK  
IT'S  
NORMAL?



SO,  
TO GET OUT OF  
THIS LIFE, MY  
MOM HAS BEEN  
SAYING SHE'D  
MARRY ME OFF  
TO A RICH  
MAN.

BUT NO  
MATTER HOW  
PRETENTIOUS  
WE PRETEND  
TO BE, THEY  
QUICKLY FIND  
OUT WHAT  
WE'RE REALLY  
LIKE.





CHIJO!!  
JUST WHAT,  
EXACTLY,  
IS THE  
MEANING OF  
THIS?!

OH,  
WELCOME,  
MS. FUJI-  
WARA.



# MADAME JOKER



AND TO ACCEPT HELP  
FROM CHIJOU ON  
TOP OF THAT...  
YOU'RE THE WORST!  
DO YOU HAVE ANY  
IDEA HOW MUCH  
YOU'VE  
EMBARRASSED ME!?

YOU HAVE  
NO COMMON  
SENSE,  
JUST LIKE  
YOUR  
FATHER!

SAYURI,  
YOU... YOU  
INVITED  
PEOPLE TO  
THE HOUSE?  
HOW IDIOTIC  
CAN YOU BE!?

GLARE

HOW COULD YOU  
LEAVE YOUR  
MIDDLE SCHOOL-  
AGED DAUGHTER  
ALONE IN A  
HOUSE WITH NO  
ELECTRICITY OR  
GAS?



I WANTED  
TO DIVORCE  
HIM, BUT I  
COULDN'T  
SINCE WE  
DIDN'T  
KNOW  
WHERE HE  
WAS!!

DON'T CALL  
ME SOME  
PATHETIC,  
ABANDONED  
WOMAN!!

I HEARD THAT YOUR  
HUSBAND  
ABANDONED YOU AND  
YOUR DAUGHTER AND  
DISAPPEARED,  
DIDN'T HE?



WOULDN'T IT  
BE FASTER IF  
YOU WERE TO  
GET INTO  
YOUR OWN  
GOLD-DIGGING  
MARRIAGE  
RATHER THAN  
MARRYING OFF  
YOUR  
DAUGHTER?

AND  
THEN  
YOU  
WERE A  
WIDOW  
...

TWO  
YEARS  
LATER  
THEY  
FOUND  
HIM  
DEAD.

BUT,



TRUE.

NEXT MONTH,  
I'M GETTING  
REMARIED  
TO ITSUKI  
GEEKKOJI...



*HAPPY*

I COULDN'T  
DO THE  
SORT OF  
THINGS YOU  
DO!



WHY?!

YOU'RE  
MARRYING  
ANOTHER  
YOUNG,  
HANDSOME,  
RICH MAN!?  
HOW CAN ONE  
WOMAN BE  
SO  
GREEDY!!!!?

ITSUKI  
GEEKKO-  
JI?

YOU MEAN,  
THE  
YOUNGER  
BROTHER  
OF YOUR  
DECEASED  
HUSBAND?



HOW... HOW RUDE!! YOU ARE A WOMAN WITH NO SENSE OF DELICACY! WHY, IF I HAD THE DESIRE TO...

THOSE ARE THINGS YOU DON'T HAVE AND CAN'T FAKE.

THAT'S BECAUSE I'M BEAUTIFUL AND HAVE WOMANLY CHARMS.

DON'T YOU LAUGH AT ME!!



DON'T LET THE DOOR HIT YOU ON THE WAY OUT!

THANK YOU, AND GOOD BYE!

YOU... CONNARD!!



I DON'T WANT YOU TO TAKE CARE OF MY CHILD. BECAUSE THE ORGANS...

SO, IF YOU WANTED TO BE LIKE ME, FIRST MAKE SURE YOUR DAUGHTER CAN USE ELECTRICITY AND GAS AT HOME, AND THEN I'LL BRING HER BACK.

NO!

IF YOU TURN DOWN MY KINDNESS, I'LL TELL EVERYONE ABOUT YOUR CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES!

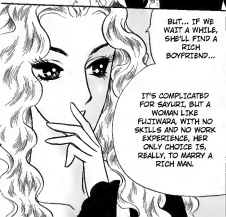






FUJIWARA HAS  
ALWAYS BEEN  
QUICK TO DO  
AS I SUGGEST.

DON'T WORRY. I'M  
SURE STARTING  
TOMORROW SAYURI  
WILL BE ABLE TO  
USE ELECTRICITY  
AND GAS AT HOME.



BUT... IF WE  
WAIT A WHILE,  
SHE'LL FIND A  
RICH  
BOYFRIEND...

IT'S COMPLICATED  
FOR SAYURI, BUT A  
WOMAN LIKE  
FUJIWARA, WITH NO  
SKILLS AND NO WORK  
EXPERIENCE, HER  
ONLY CHOICE IS,  
REALLY, TO MARRY A  
RICH MAN.



SUGGEST... I  
WOULDN'T CALL  
IT THAT...



YES,

I KNOW  
...

COME AND  
VISIT SOME  
TIME!

A FEW  
DAYS  
LATER,  
SAYURI  
WENT  
BACK  
HOME.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO  
GO, BE PICKY?

THANKS TO  
YOU, I WENT TO  
A PAWN SHOP  
FOR THE FIRST  
TIME.



HUH?

HOW RARE FOR  
JURIAN TO BE  
INTERESTED IN  
A GIRL...

SAYURI  
SURE IS  
CUTE...

CH. 8 ♥ END



*Tomoko Naka*

# Madam Joker

初出

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第7話「望つき」……………JOURすてきな主婦たち2002年12月号

第8話「時産生」……………JOURすてきな主婦たち2003年 5月号

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